The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a wide summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Benevolent feeling ennobles the most trifling actions.—Thackeray.

WHOLE NO. 1128. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1932 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 22, NO. 37.

Sweatshop Evil Continues

The expressed determination of Wilbur L. Cross, governor of Connecticut, to drive sweatshops from that State merits the complete approval of all patriotic citizens.

According to W. J. Couper, deputy commissioner of labor, the sweatshop brigade of unscrupulous and low-wage employers leaves New York to escape the 48-hour week law and other stringent factory regulations and invades Connecticut, which permits a 55-hour week and which, "until recently, at least, was noted for lax enforcement of its rather low legal standards for employment."

The sweatshop employer hires a low-rent loft, puts in a few sewing machines, gets women's garments cut ready for sewing from New York, and hires women and girls at very low wages to do the work.

"Some of these employers," Mr. Couper said, "literally pay no wages at all. Under the pretense of letting them try out for jobs to work for nothing for two or three weeks until they learn the business. At the end of this period the girls are discharged and replaced with another group of deluded learners. The employer thus gets his labor for nothing.

"Others, not quite so brazen, pay unimaginable low rates. The girls are lucky if they get $3 at the end of a hard week and are rolling in wealth if their pay check amounts to $6."

Mr. Couper's investigation of these cesspools of industry also revealed that the shops are very unsanitary and that many of them carry no workmen's compensation insurance, which leaves the employes without legal protection in case of injury or death. Moreover, the owners often violate the 55-hour law and work their employes 60 to 70 hours a week. The courts are disposed to treat the violators of the hours-of-labor law leniently and have imposed fines in some instances at the disgracefully low figure of $14 and costs.

In concluding his indictment of sweatshops, Mr. Couper said:

"Sweatshops are the gypsies of industry. As they move from place to place they are no asset to any community, a detriment to all. Their low wages with the resultant low purchasing power, kill retail trade and retard, if not forever prevent, business recovery

"Sweatshops are the sewer rats of industry. They carry the industrial plague. Three groups of shirt factory girls in Connecticut have gone on strike under Communist leadership. From these sweatshops social unrest and Communism may spread through our State and country."

The American Federation of Labor has persistently fought for the elimination of the sweatshop evil so poignantly described by Mr. Couper.

The sweatshop is not confined to Connecticut. Its tentacles extend to other States. The monster will spread further unless outlawed by public opinion and crimped by strict factory labor codes.

Organized labor will welcome the co-operation of progressive forces everywhere to drive the evil from our industrial system.

California Pays Idle Board And Lodging on Forest Work

Sacramento, Calif.—Twenty State labor camps, housing 3,500 men, will be established for the relief of the itinerant jobless during the Winter, Governor Frederick C. Emerson Brown announced. The men will be recruited from the larger cities and will be used to build fire trails in return for their board and lodging. The State labor program provides for the expenditure of $400,000 this Winter, which will care for a maximum of 3,500 men, approximately 7,000 men. Last year 2,252 jobless itinerants were provided with board and lodging for their work in twenty-eight forestry camps and two highway camps. When the camps closed each man was given $5 extra. The total cost was $4.5 cents per man per day, which included the cost of establishing and maintained in camps to about ninety forest officers and a number of visitors.

Fort Worth Unions Urge Motor Truck Regulation

Fort Worth, Texas.—The Fort Worth Trades Assembly and the Fort Worth Allied Printing Trades Council adopted a resolution calling upon organized labor and business interests of the city to withhold patronage from all of the motor transportation enjoying privileges, immunities and exemptions not enjoyed by the railroads.

The resolution declared that subsidized automotive transportation, "notorious for its low wage standards," has taken so much business from the railroads that hundreds of the 8,500 railroad workers of Fort Worth have lost their jobs from this cause alone.

Wilmington Mayor's Committee Looks After 16,000 Destitute

Wilmington, Del.—The Mayor's Unemployment and Relief Committee, of which Frank H. McHugh is chairman, took over from the block-aid committee the work of providing relief for 16,000 men, women and children of Wilmington who are unable to buy food, clothing, fuel, light and pay rent because the wage earner of the family is jobless.

During the six months of block-aid activities over a quarter of a million dollars were contributed to the fund.

Miami Labor Condemns Low Wage Rate on Highway Work

Miami, Fla.—Labor's Citizenship Committee here protested against the low wage scale set by the State Highway Department on Road 4-A from South Miami to Naranja.

The committee claims that prior to advertising for bids, Chief Engineer B. M. Duncan of the highway department held a conference in Miami and recommended that the department pay 35 cents an hour for common labor and the prevailing wage rate in this district for other work.

In view of the fact that the men are permitted to work only 30 hours a week, it is evident that they would not have as much below those required for ordinary living standards. The committee insists that the State officials should have taken the reduced number of hours into consideration in fixing the rate. Chairman H. O. McClurg was instructed to continue his endeavors to have the matter equitably adjusted.

Street Railway Union Hits 5-Cent Fare; Fears Wage Cut

Atlanta, Ga.—The Atlanta local of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes adopted a resolution vigorously opposing the proposal before the City Council to reduce street car and coach fares to five cents.

The resolution declared that the cut rate would be likely to result in a cut and impair the working conditions of 350 street railway and bus service employes, thus imposing lowered living standards on their families.

Some months ago the members of the Street Railway Employes' Union voluntarily accepted shorter hours and lower wage rates because of the bad financial condition of the Atlanta street railway company. The members claim the inevitable second wage cut resulting from the proposed five-cent fare would be essentially unjust.

20 Cents Per Day and Keep For Jobless in Nova Scotia

Halifax, Nova Scotia.—Authorities here announced that work for unemployed at 20 cents per day would be offered relief camps with lodging, meals, and 20 cents per day for each day's work actually performed. Each applicant must pass a medical examination. The work relief does not include the jobless married men.

Providence Printers Adopt Assessment for Unemployed

Providence, R. I.—A 2 per cent assessment on the weekly wages for the benefit of unemployed members was approved by a referendum vote of Providence Typographical Union No. 1. It expected the fund will take care of the jobless printers who have been members of the Local for three months.

Cedar Rapids Union Barbers Give Free Hair Cuts to Idle

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—The union barbers of Cedar Rapids agreed to give free hair cuts to unemployed persons recommended by the Citizens' Unemployment Relief Committee. Twenty-four shops said they would give haircut tickets as their donation to the welfare movement. The 24 union barber shops gave 2,500 free hair cuts, which, at current prices, represented a contribution of $1,250.

261,576 Meals to Idle Served By Jackson Labor Federation

Jackson, Mich.—The Jackson Federation of Labor Relief Kitchen furnished 261,576 free meals to destitute persons during the period ending November 2, 1932.

During the first week in November, 5,380 meals were served, an increase of 289 over the preceding week.

The officials in charge of the relief kitchen desire to express their thanks to all the hungry in Jackson city and county who are unable to secure food from any other way.

Merchants and other charitably disposed persons furnish liberal amounts of food products.

All of the work is done by the unemployed. This enables the Federation of Labor to make the distribution of food at 100 per cent charge—practically the only relief kitchen in the United States, it is claimed, that is able to do so.

Portland's New Post Office Built by Trade Union Labor

Portland, Maine.—The contract for constructing Portland's big new post office was awarded to the Poorvee-Weeman Contracting Company of Boston for $271,354. The company is a strictly union concern. The job will provide work for more than 50 union mechanics for a year and a half.

Union Shopmen Adopt 5-Day Week to Make Jobs for Idle

Worcester, Mass.—The union shopmen employed by the Worcester Street Railway shops adopted the five-day week as a means of providing jobs for unemployed members of the Street Railway Employees' Union. All shop workers, including maintenance of way men, now have the five-day schedule. It is expected that motorman-conductors will follow, and bus drivers will take similar action, thus placing the entire union organization on the five-day week.

Jobless Women Given Work Making Red Cross Clothing

Des Moines, Iowa.—A number of unemployed women here were given work on the first cutting of 10,000 yards of cotton goods manufactured from Government cotton crop supplied by the Red Cross and sent to the local Red Cross chapter for distribution among the needy if the material to be made into shirts is cut and sized. The Welch-Cook-Seals Company did the cutting and sizing free of charge.

The sewing project, financed this year by the Citizens' Unemployment Relief Committee, placed 87 women on the payroll at 30 cents an hour, six days per week.

CONGRESSMAN C. A. KARCH, LABOR'S FRIEND, DIES

Served As Attorney for Striking Railway Shopmen in 1922, Demanded Jury Trials in Injunction Cases, and Was Star Witness in Impeachment Proceedings Against Federal Judge English Who Issued the Injunctions.

East St. Louis, Ill.—Charles A. Karch, Representative in the United States Congress from the twenty-second district of Illinois, died here after a surgical operation. In his demise, organized labor and the workers generally mourn a sincere friend.

During the railroad shopmen's strike in 1922 he acted as the attorney for the strikers without pay. It was in that struggle that he won prominence as ever ready to make a fight for the masses.

Federal Judge George W. English of East St. Louis, notorious for his anti-labor views, issued a number of sweeping injunctions against the strikers. Karch insisted on jury trials for strikers charged with violation of the injunctions. English reluctantly granted some jury trials, but finally shut down on them with the observation that Karch's contempt demand was an insult to the court.

When Congress had under consideration a resolution of impeachment against English, in 1923, Karch was one of the star witnesses before the congressional committee in charge of the investigation. Testimony that the committee would report against the jurist was flish resigned.

Mr. Karch was elected to the seventy-second Congress, which opened on December 7, 1931. He renewed himself to be a sturdy friend of workers and women during the entire session, and was endorsed by the American Federation of Labor for re-election.

WAGE LAW VIOLATOR GIVEN JAIL TERM OF TEN MONTHS

Nevada City, Calif.—A striking victory for the rights of the workers was registered by Superior Judge Raglan Tuttle in his decision confirming the conviction of J. C. Huff and J. H. Rogers for violating the State wage law. Huff is vice president and general manager and Rogers secretary of the Nevada County Mines Corporation.

The conviction was on charges brought by State Labor Commissioner T. A. Reardon for violation of the State's semi-monthly pay day law and section 6 of the wage law in failing to pay 62 employes of the company $9,717.81 in wages due. The employes were, left stranded by the latter part of last year.

The men were recently convicted in a trial before Justice of the Peace W. H. Mobley of Nevada City. Attorney Arthur L. Elkus represented the Labor Commission, who handled the prosecution, proved that Huff and Rogers, promoters of the company, had drawn their salaries and expenses, while the employes were left high and dry. Huff drew himself $2,604.82 which should have been applied on the payroll.

Justice Mobley sentenced Huff to ten months in the county jail and imposed a fine of $200 on Rogers. Superior Judge Tuttle upheld Justice Mobley's decision. The conviction on the second secured by Labor Commissioner Reardon in the drive to prevent mining company promoters to hire workers and then refuse to pay them their wages.

Iron Workers Elect Tighe 'And Davis to Head Union

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The international canvassing board of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers announced the election of the following officers of the organization: President, M. F. Tighe; secretary-treasurer, D. J. Davis; assistant secretary, Louis Leonard; managing editor, John J. Davis; vice president, boiling and finishing division, Thos. G. Gillie; vice president, sheet and tin division, Edward W. Long; resident trustee, John Fulton; boiling and finishing division trustee, P. E. Christy; sheet and tin division trustee, William F. Jones.

Children Given Free Milk To Prevent Malnutrition

Uniontown, Pa.—A seven-months'-old baby died here of malnutrition. To prevent a recurrence of such a tragedy the authorities of Fayette county established seven milk distribution depots with a daily capacity of 1,000 quarts enough milk for 5,000 children. Contracts were let by the commissioners to private shop owners to supply the schools in the communities served with the milk needed. Some children get one pint a day while others get a quart, the amount varying with the age and need of the child.

The milk is distributed under the direction of a committee headed by Dr. F. C. Robinson, assisted by Miss Mary James G. Robinson, county superintendent of schools, and other county nurses in accordance with instructions from the Milk Control Board of Pennsylvania.

Quinlivan Elected County Commissioner, Toledo, Ohio

Toledo, Ohio.—John J. Quinlivan, business agent of the Toledo Central Labor Union, was elected to the office of commissioner of Lucas county. He expressed his appreciation to the members of organized labor and his other friends for their loyal support of his candidacy for the position.

Missouri Legislature Gets Old-Age Pension Authority

Jefferson City, Mo.—The voters of Missouri approved the amendment to the constitution authorizing the legislature to enact old-age pension legislation. Organized labor was unstintingly in favor of the amendment.

Campaign for Union Label Gets Results in Belleville

Belleville, Ill.—The Belleville Union Label League and the Central Labor Assembly report good results from the campaign to increase the demand for union-made goods.

Trade unionists, their families and other sympathizers are asked and urged ways to look for the union store card of the Retail Clerks Union and the union shop cards of the Butcher Workmen's Union and the Barbers Union. If these cards are not visible, the union motto is to take your patronage to some other establishment. The same principle is applied to everything capable of being handled by the Teamsters' Union, and to all products which can carry the union label.

CUT HOURS, RAISE PAY, UNION OFFICIALS URGE

A. F. of L. Metal Trades Department Heads Ask 5-Hour Day, Punitive Overtime, and Federal Licensing of Corporations to Protect Labor from Banking Control of Industry.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—The shorter work day and work week to remedy unemployment, punitive overtime to prevent overspeeding, higher wages to adjust labor's purchasing power to increased output, Federal licensing of corporations to control banker domination of industry, and opposition to the injunction as a form of work to private industry were the outstanding features of the report of John O'Connell, president, and John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the metal trades department of the American Federation of Labor, to the department's annual convention here.

Unorganized Workers Are Helpless

The report stated that the huge army of eleven to twelve millions unemployed has made it impossible for the unorganized wage earners to offer any resistance to wage cuts, and pointed to trade union organization as the only effective method for protecting the interests of the wage earners.

The economics of the shorter work day and work week the report stated has been demonstrated in increase in the per capita production of the workers in the five-hour day in the past and necessary to remedy unemployment.

The officers suggested the establishment of a maximum work day and work week for General conditions with provisions for reducing the hours below the standard when depression set in so that the stock of employment might be taken up.

A new "economic brake against too rapid expansion" of industry the report recommended a program of punitive overtime which would provide "time and a half for the first half hour, double time for the second half hour, triple time for the third half hour, and so on."

Wages Lag Behind Production

On the wage question the report said that wages since 1923 had failed to keep up with increasing production. Figures were cited to show that while manufactured products increased $9,000,000,000 between 1922 and 1929 wages increased but a little more than $4,000,000. Wealth had increased, salaries had gone up, but wages had gone down.

"Wages Must Be Raised

"Dividing the work sufficiently would give the opportunity to all wage-earners to secure their equal share, small as that might be," the report said.

"Until unless the rate of wage is substantially increased, nothing has been done to remove one major cause of a depression, that is, the reduction of wage earners' capacity to buy the Nation's products.

"The Nation's economic welfare demands that all wage reductions since the fall of 1929 be restored, and in addition that much higher wages be secured than were paid before the depression."

Banking Control of Industry

The report charged that small banking groups had come into effective control over a large number of industrial organizations until "Four twelve New York banks hold 4,557 directorships in railroads, utilities, insurance companies, manufacturing and other corporations. The policies of these banking groups were often inimical to the interests of and far removed from the individual workers.

Federal Licenses for Corporations

To remedy this situation the report advocated a rigid Federal licensing law with broad publicity features binding on all corporations engaged in interstate commerce. Under this plan corporations holding Federal licenses would be required to submit quarterly statements of the number of their employes the number of hours worked, the total amount of payroll and the total amount of sales.

The report stressed the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law which outlawed the yellow dog contract as a condition for employment, as an "historic step forward" and urged a similar measure be enacted by the various State legislatures.

Government in Business

On the question of the Government in business the report criticized the Government's policy in giving contracts to private ship yards the work now being done in Government Navy Yards as detrimental to labor in the industries concerned.

The report also declared that Congress should provide the five-day week for all Government employes, abolish overtime wages for Sunday, holiday and night work, as well as thirty days annual leave with pay.

WORK FOR IDLE URGED TO PAY FOR RELIEF

Aberdeen Taxpayers Want Public Improvements In Return for Food Furnished the Destitute Unemployed.

Aberdeen, Wash.—Work relief instead of charity for the unemployed was recommended by the executive committee of the Grays Harbor Taxpayers' Association in a report to the conference between the county officials and representatives of Aberdeen, Montesano, Elmo, and other cities on Grays Harbor.

A survey showed that the four larger cities on Grays Harbor could provide 1,200 days' work per week for approximately 1,200 men. Several hundred additional men could be given part-time in clearing land on county-owned property.

"Reports reaching the headquarters of the taxpayers' association, the executive committee said, "indicate that men now receiving relief from the county would welcome opportunity to repay the county with some work. While the work undertaken would not bring in any revenue to the county at this time, the clearing of county-owned property would materially augment its value, and when economic conditions bettered the county would be able to realize on some of the tremendous outlay it is now being called upon to make.

"Institution of a work program in return for county relief would have a salutary effect on the morale of our people, and inquiry made among the unemployed by the taxpayers' body justifies the assertion that 95 per cent of families now receiving relief are most anxious for an opportunity to work in return for what they receive."

UNION PRINTERS LOCK-OUT AGAINST PUBLIC INTEREST

Des Moines Labor Editor Says Meredith Publishing Company's Scab Shop Victimizes Home-Owning Union Printers—Imported Strikebreakers Are Injury to the Community.

Des Moines, Iowa.—"No more outstanding exemplification of the working principles of 'American Plan' can be cited than that at the plant of the Meredith Publishing Company in this city," declared Charles E. Hughes, editor of the Iowa Unionist, the official organ of the Des Moines Trades and Labor Assembly, in an article condemning the company for its recent lock-out of thirteen men and women, comprising the entire force of the composing room, "for no other reason than that they were members of the Typographical Union."

Home Owners and Tax Payers

"These discharged people," Editor Hughes said, "were, without exception, long-time residents of Des Moines—most of them having been born and reared here. Three-fourths of the number are home owners and tax payers. Practically all of them were heads of families, educating their children in our schools, supporting them in accordance with our local merchants, contributing their full share to all the various charities maintained for the benefit of the poor and needy of the community, lending their aid to every civic and social movement looking to the betterment of the city. Most of them have been born, and here lies the dust of their dear ones. In every sense of the word they were citizens.

Professional Strike Breakers

"The places of these people were filled with professional 'strike breakers' sent here by an agency located in Chicago. These men are typical drifters, having no fixed habitat, being shipped hither and yon by the agency at the behest of the labor managers who are obsessed by the idea that workers should not be permitted to acquire a feeling of permanency.

Injury to Community

"Naturally they do not consider themselves residents of Des Moines, nor do they acknowledge any loyalty thereto. Whatever emolument they receive (and it is informed their salaries are considerably in excess of those heretofore paid) is seductously pouched or paid directly to the agency which chattels they are.

"Des Moines merchants get none of it. Our community chest gets none of it. Our Red Cross drive will get none of it. Our municipal government is not enriched to the value of a thin dime. They are here for one thing, and one thing only—parasites. Having no interest in the community, they do not concern themselves in their attitude toward their work, their employers, and the people of Des Moines. They are mercenaries, they are simply 'high-graders.'"

Oakland Labor Makes Stiff Fight on Nonunion Shop

Oakland, Calif.—Organized labor in Oakland has entered the fight on nonunion to protect workers against unfair conditions imposed by nonunion concerns.

The Teamsters' Union is vigorously combating the reactionary policy which the Mendelson Manufacturing Co. has pose on its former employes and is preparing to continue the strike indefinitely.

The Santa Clara and Alameda Counties Building Trades Council has also associated Oil Products on the official "We Don't Patronize" list because of its unfair attitude toward the labor movement and plastered automobiles with the obnoxious stickers.

The Journeymen Tailors' Union lined up Mendelson's custom-made clothing establishment for the union. Mendelson said he preferred a union set-up. "It is most beneficial for the customers," he said, "because a higher quality standard is maintained."

A concerted attempt is also being made to bring the few stores which remain open after 6 p. m. on the six o'clock closing rule by withholding patronage from them.

Robert E. Lee, St. Louis Labor Leader, Dies at 64

St. Louis, Mo.—Mr. Robert E. Lee, business agent of the Bill Posters, Billers and Cement Finishers Union for 25 years, died here at the age of 64 after a long illness, it was announced.

"St. Louis labor circles suffered a distinct loss in the death of Lee," declared the Trades Council Union News. "In 1923 he was one of the leaders of the jurisdictional fight which led up to $5,000,000 worth of construction until the employers signed the bill posters' and plasterers' demands for a $14 a day wage scale. At the time this was the highest ever received here by skilled labor."

Prevailing Wage Rate Applies To Jacksonville Post Office

Jacksonville, Fla. — Algernon Blair was awarded the contract for building Jacksonville's $2,000,000 post office after agreeing to employ available local labor at prevailing rates of wages. Organized labor of Jacksonville, in cooperation with friendly public officials worked a number of months to secure this agreement. It was felt that an unscrupulous contractor would import outside labor and attempt to lower existing wage rates.

Atlanta Motion Picture Theatre Becomes Union Shop

Atlanta, Ga.—The Georgia motion picture theatre owners and trade unionists have refused to patronize for a number of months because of unfair labor conditions, was placed on the fair list after R. B. Willey, manager of the Fox Theatre, signed an agreement with Local No. 225 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Motion Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada. The contract for one year was signed by E. B. Kinard, vice president of the local union, and W. L. Hudson, business agent, conducted the negotiations

James LaVeer, Springfield Labor Official, Dies at 57

Springfield, Ill.—James LaVeer, president of the Springfield Cooks and Waiters' Union and custodian of the Labor Temple, died suddenly here at the age of 57. He was a member of the executive board of the Springfield Federation of Labor and one of the best known trade unionists in this city.

Green Condemns Cord's Scheme To Control Aviation Corporation

A. F. of L. President Says Anti-Labor Policies of Cord Company's Head Would Destroy Friendly Labor Relations of Aviation Concern—Urges Stockholders to Retain Present Management.

Washington.—The antilabor policies of E. L. Cord, president of the Cord Corporation of Chicago and of the Auburn Automobile Company, are pronounced that control by him of the Aviation Corporation would be a serious blow to American workers and distinctly against the public interest.

This definite declaration is characterized a letter by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to LaMotte T. Cohu, president of the Aviation Corporation, New York, condemning Cord's scheme to secure enough proxies from the Corporation's stockholders to enable him to control the annual meeting and thus capture the management of the concern from the present directors who maintain amicable relations with its employes.

Mr. Green pointed out that when Cord "controlled a large number of airplanes and airplane equipment, operated the Century Airlines, he reduced the pay of the pilots below a living wage. He contrasted this unpatriotic action with the attitude of labor shown by the management of the Aviation Corporation.

Mr. Green's letter to Mr. Cohu follows:

"The public press within the last few days has attracted public attention to the attempt which is being made by Mr. E. L. Cord to obtain proxies and control the Aviation Corporation.

"Under ordinary circumstances I would refrain from participating in a friendly difference of opinion between certain representatives of stockholders in a corporation. In this instance, however, it is different.

The Aeronautic to Labor

"The American Federation of Labor has for many years been thoroughly informed regarding the labor policies of Mr. E. L. Cord in the different industries which he dominated, managed and controlled.

"He has shown a most antagonistic attitude toward Labor, and particularly toward Organized Labor. We are thoroughly convinced that Mr. Cord is hostile to Labor and that he is opposed to organization among workers employed in factories of corporations which he controls. For this reason the American Federation of Labor sincerely hopes that Mr. Cord will fail in his purpose to gain control of the Aviation Corporation of New York City.

Pilots' Pay Cut Below Living Wage

"We are quite familiar with the attitude of Mr. Cord in his control of the Century Airlines Company.

"We are also familiar with the record which he recently made when he dominated the Stinson Aircraft Corporation, and the Century-Pacific Air Lines, Limited. He reduced the wages of the pilots employed by these air companies below a living wage, notwithstanding the hazards of employment and the great risk assumed by the pilots, all of which are added to the great disadvantage of the stockholders of these companies.

"His whole labor policy in the management and control of these corporations tended to reduce efficiency, to create labor disputes and to cause the pilots have always sought to maintain, by every honorable means, and among the air pilots as to result in a strike.

Cord Control Would Injure Company

"The officers and leaders of the American Federation of Labor firmly believe that if Mr. Cord secures control of the largest air transport system of the world—it means an attack on labor. Such an attempt we will be ready to resent and resist to the utmost.

"We are certain there can be no cooperation between Labor, Mr. Cord, and any company which he dominates.

"Surely, the stockholders of the Aviation Corporation can see from the picture presented that control of the corporation by Mr. Cord will greatly injure the company, cause constant friction and disputes, result in a large investment and the employes, and seriously affect the value of the properties owned by the stockholders.

Aviation Corporation Friendly to Labor

"It will be the purpose of the American Federation of Labor to call the attention of members of Congress and the authorities of Washington to the fact that Labor is strongly opposed to Mr. Cord's labor policies.

"We are highly pleased over the development of a cooperative relationship between the present management of the Aviation Corporation and its employes; the air pilots employed by your company have confidence in the present management and for that reason the employes are anxious, willing and eager to render the highest and most efficient service of which they are capable. We do not wish by this action of the present management of the Aviation Corporation.

"In behalf of Labor and in the name of Labor I express the hope that Mr. Cord will be defeated in his attempt and purpose to secure control of the Aviation Corporation."

BUILDING WORKERS FACE WINTER OF SUFFERING

Secretary McLaughlin of Cleveland Building Trades Council Says Union Funds Are Not Able to Provide Relief for Increasing Number of Jobless—Suggests Work Sharing.

Cleveland, Ohio.—The large number of Cleveland building trade workers who have been out of employment for a long time is not diminishing and the outlook on any large construction work is as gloomy as ever, declared Harry Mc-Laughlin, business representative of the building trades.

"The only relief these toilers can look forward to," he said, "is that the small builder and the home owner will be in a position during the coming winter to provide some work in their line. But this cannot be counted upon to take care of even a small number of workers. Consequently during the cold weather there will be less building mechanics employed than have been working during the past months.

"This means that the suffering among the rank and file of the Building Trades Council will certainly be more intense this Winter than it was a year ago, and last year was one of the worst Winters we have ever had here.

"What will make it harder for these workers during the coming months is the fact that a year ago the unions contained more than 75 per cent in better financial condition than they are at present. Because of this fact they were able to aid their members who were in dire need. But because the large majority of the members of all locals in the Council have either not worked at all or only part time during the past six or seven months, these organizations will not be able to give even this aid, which will be more necessary this Winter.

"There is but one thing left for the unions to do, and that is lower as far as possible the number of hours per day that the men can work and thus make all available work during the coming months go as far as possible."

OPERATOR TRIED TO COERCE VOTE OF MINERS, IS CHARGE

Evansville, Ind.—The Labor Forum, official organ of the Evansville Central Labor Union, roundly condemned Henry C. Korff, Sr., president of the Korff Coal Company, and his son, Henry Korff, Jr., for attempting to coerce the employes of the company into voting for Hoover and Republican candidates for Congress. All of the employes were given a letter declaring their jobs would be jeopardized by the hard times which Korff claimed would likely follow the election of Roosevelt and a Democratic Congress.

Korff operates a nonunion mine. According to the Labor Forum's information, the miners employed by Korff are paid about 75 cents per ton. At ten tons per day this amounts to $2.20 for a 7½ hour day.

"Out of that $2.20," says the Labor Forum, "the miner pays for his carbide and powder; he pays 15 cents per ton per yard for lifting fire clay bottom; he pays a penalty on the equivalent of one ton of coal per day for removing the coal he digs from his 'room' to the main haulway, and if at the end of the day, if any rock or slate is found, about 200 pounds to the average weight of each of the coal dug and sent up, and he is paid at the rate of 22 cents per ton for the rock.

"The miners are paid every two weeks. If at the end of the first week they draw any money on what they have earned, Korff charges them 50 cents on the dollar for the use of their own money for the week."

It is claimed that Korff's letter violated the State law which declares it is unlawful for an employer to inform his employes that if a particular ticket or candidate is elected or defeated work in his place or establishment will be stopped or wages reduced.

Wilmington Labor Favors Unemployment Insurance

Wilmington, Del.—A conference of representative labor men held here under the auspices of the Central Labor Union gave instruction to John C. Saylor, secretary of the union and delegate to the convention of the American Federation of Labor, to lend active aid in terms coming before the convention.

The delegate was directed to favor—by unemployment insurance, either through State or Federal legislation, or for all the unemployed; the payment of decent wages, and the 44-hour week in all building trades.

Representatives of the clothing workers' organization have signed plans to be taken to organize the Wilmington branch of a Baltimore, Md., clothing manufacturer. It was claimed that the local branch employes women as clothing cutters and pays wages considerably lower than male cutters receive even in plants paying the lowest wages in the country.

Kansas City Building Trades Provide Food for Unemployed

Kansas City, Mo.—The Kansas City Building Trades Council established a food relief center for the benefit of unemployed members of the building trades. Groceries and kindred lines of food were given food the opening day. The food was purchased and distributed by the Government through the Red Cross, each applicant was given one sack of potatoes, five pounds of beans, and one and one-half pounds of food. This was distributed by the committee of the Building Trades Council. The distribution of food takes place on Friday of each week.

Council Bluffs Post Office Prevailing Wage Rates Fixed

Council Bluffs, Iowa.—Mr. C. T. Mulqueen, contracting officer for the Procuring the United States Government, established the following prevailing wage rates which Mulqueen, as the local general contractor, will have to pay in the construction of the new post office here:

Common labor, 40 cents; carpenters, 75 cents; plumbers, $1; plasterers, $1; sheet metal workers, 90 cents; electrical workers, $1.10; cement finishers, $1; marble setters, $1.12½; steel workers, 90 cents; stone masons, $1; hoisting engineers, $1.12½; teamsters, 44 a day.

Work for Jobless Provided By Quincy Municipal Dock

Quincy, Ill.—The Quincy City Council passed an ordinance creating a municipal dock commission to bring about the construction of a dock and a barge line terminal here. The commission expects to receive a loan of $71,000 from the Federal Reconstruction Finance Corporation to carry on the work. The loan will be liquidated by a charge of 15 cents per ton paid by merchants and manufacturers for freight handled over the dock. Officials claim that the job will give employment to around 250 men for from 60 to 90 days. Dues providing work relief for a portion of the 6,000 jobless who are being fed by the City.